

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-5 (cancelled)

6. (previously presented) A process for the preparation of alkylated dihydroxybenzene, said process comprising alkylating dihydroxybenzene with a tertiary butyl alcohol in the presence of a montmorillonite K-10 solid acid catalyst at a temperature in the range of 40 to 90°C for a time period in the range of 2 to 8 hours, and separating the alkylated dihydroxybenzene.
7. (previously presented) The Process of claim 6 wherein the dihydroxybenzene to be alkylated is selected from the group consisting of resorcinol, hydroquinone and catechol.
8. (previously presented) The process of claim 6 wherein the process is carried out at a temperature between about 60°C to 90°C.
9. (previously presented) The process of claim 6 wherein the process is carried out for a time period between about 6 to 8 hours.